

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A disk control system that receives a process command for writing or reading of data from an information processing device, and performs a write or read process of data with respect to a logical device corresponding to a logical unit specified by that process command, comprising:

means for managing, as units, logical devices, which are logical storage regions that have been set in a storage region provided by a disk drive;

means for storing a correspondence between said logical devices and logical units, ~~which are said logical units being~~ storage regions that have been set logically; and

means for assigning, when a process command has been received for a logical unit to which no logical device has been assigned, a logical device to that logical unit and performing processing with regard to that logical device; and

means for responding to said information processing device, when a process command that does not cause a process with regard to a logical device has been received from said information processing device, by performing a process corresponding to that process command without performing said assignment.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original): A disk control system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for assigning a plurality of said logical devices to one of said logical units; and

means for assigning to that logical unit only a number of said logical devices that is necessary in order to perform the processing corresponding to said process command.

4. (Original): A disk control system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for sending to said information processing device a message indicating that said process command cannot be processed, if there is no logical device that can be assigned to said logical unit.

5. (Original): A disk control system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for sending to said information processing device a message indicating that reading is impossible, if a process command requesting the reading of data from a logical unit to which no logical device has been assigned has been received from said information processing device.

6. (Original): A disk control system according to claim 1, wherein said information processing device is an open system computer.

7. (Original): A disk control system according to claim 1, wherein said process command of the disk control system is a SCSI command.

8 and 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended): A control method for a disk control system that manages, as units, logical devices, which are logical storage regions that have been set in a storage region provided by a disk drive, that stores a correspondence between said logical devices and logical units, which are said logical units being storage regions that have been set logically, that receives a process command that has been sent from an information processing device, and that performs processing with regard to a logical device corresponding to the logical unit specified by that process command, the control method comprising:

a first step of receiving a process command for a logical unit;

a second step of determining whether a logical device has been assigned to that logical unit; and

if in said second step a logical device is assigned to said logical unit, a third step of performing with regard to that logical device a process corresponding to said process command, and, if in said second step no logical device is assigned to said logical unit, assigning a logical device to said logical unit and performing with regard to that logical device a process corresponding to said process command.

11. (Currently amended): A control method for a disk control system that manages, as units, logical devices, which are logical storage regions that have been set in a storage region provided by a disk drive, that stores a correspondence between said logical devices and logical units, ~~which are said logical units being~~ storage regions that have been set logically, that receives a process command that has been sent from an information processing device, and that performs processing with respect to a logical device corresponding to the logical unit specified by that process command, the control method comprising, when a process command has been received for a logical unit:

if a logical device has been assigned to that logical unit, performing with regard to that logical device a process corresponding to that process command;

if no logical device has been assigned to that logical unit and that process command is a command that does not cause a process with regard to said logical device, performing a process corresponding to that process command without assigning a logical device to that logical unit; and

if no logical device has been assigned to that logical unit and that process command is a command that causes a process with regard to said logical device, assigning a logical device to said logical unit and performing with regard to that logical device a process corresponding to that process command.